Minister's Visit to Gulf Countries

1693. SHRIMATI USHA MALHOTRA:
SHRI P. N. SUKUL:
DR. LOKESH CHANDRA:

Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Minister of State in his Ministry recently visited six Gulf countries; and

(b) if so, what was the purpose of his visit and the outcome thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS (SHRI RAM NIWAS MIRDHA): (a) Yes, Sir. The Minister of State of External Affairs, Shri A. A. Rahim, visited Bahrain, Kuwait, Oman, Saudi Arabia, the United Arab Fmirates and the Yemen Arab Republic during the period May, 1983 to June 10, 1983.

(b) The Prime objective of the Minister's visit to the Gulf countries was to maintain the high level of contacts that we have had with these friendly countries. The tour was therefore essentially one for fostering further goodwill.

The Minister of State took the opportunity during his tour to look at the conditions of Indian workers in the Gulf, the functioning of our Embassies, especially the Consular Sections, and finally to see how India's economic and commercial interests could be further strengthened.

The visit resulted in strengthening the friendly relations existing with these countries, and also gave a boost to India's economic and commercial cooperation with them.

Impact of imported electronic components on prices

1694. SHRIMATI USHA MALHOTRA:
SHRI P. N. SUKUL:
DR. LOKESH CHANDRA:

Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) the total amount of electronic components imported from Japan in 1983-84; and

(b) the impact of these imported components on the price of electronic goods in the country?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE DEPARTMENT OF ELECTRONICS AND IN THE MINISTRY OF FOOD AND CIVIL SUPPLIES (SHRI M. S. SANJEEVI RAO): (a) and (b) The information is being collected and will be laid on the Table of the House.

International Law and Conventions on Hijacking of Aeroplanes

1695. MISS SAROJ KHAPARDE: Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government propose to approach the United Nations to adopt international law and conventions for preventing hijacking of aeroplanes and to render all possible assistance to the victimised country; and

(b) if so, what are the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS (SHRI RAM NIWAS MIRDHA): (a) No, Sir. There already exist three international multilateral treaties for the suppression of hijacking and other unlawful acts against the safety of civil aviation. These Conventions are:

(i) The Tokyo Convention on Offences and Certain Other Acts Committed on Board Aircraft (1963);

(ii) The Hague Convention for the Suppression of Unlawful Seizure of Aircraft (1970); and

(iii) Montreal Convention for the Suppression of Unlawful Acts against the Safety of Civil Aviation (1971).

As of August 1983, 115, 117, 117 countries are Parties to Tokyo, the Hague and the Montreal Conventions, respectively. India, Bangladesh, Nepal, Sri Lanka and Pakistan, among

others, are Parties to these Conventions.

All these Conventions set forth detailed provisions for dealing with offences of hijacking and other unlawful acts against the safety of civil aviation. Under the Hague Convention (1970) and the Montreal Convention (1971) the contracting states are required to make the above mentioned offences punishable by severe penalties.

(b) Does not arise.

Scavanger-free towns in the country

1696. SHRI M. BASAVARAJU: Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that a number of towns in Bihar have been made scavanger-free towns with the conversion of all the dry latrines into water-borne ones under a scheme of the Central matching assistance;

(b) the progress made, with regard to making other towns scavanger-free in various States/Union Territories where dry latrines still exist; and

(c) whether any special steps have been taken in the matter under the revised 20-Point Programme?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRIMATI RAM DULARI SINHA): (a) to (c) A scheme for liberation of scavangers by converting existing dry latrines was started during the beginning of 6th Five Year Plan with Central assistance on matching basis under a Centrally Sponsored Scheme for "Implementation of Protection of Civil Rights Act" on 'whole town approach'. A few towns/municipalities from various States have been taken up on selective basis within the limited allocation of funds under this Scheme. 15 States have been assisted for 51 towns/municipalities till 1983-84. 5 towns of Bihar have been declared as 'scavanger free' so far and the programme in other selected towns of different States are at various stages of completion.

Cases registered under SITA in Delhi

1697. SHRI M. BASAVARAJU: Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) the number of cases which were registered in Delhi under the Supression of Immoral Traffic in Women and Girls Act during the last three years, year-wise; and

(b) the number of cases in which culprits were arrested, prosecuted and punished, year-wise?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI P. VENKATASUBBAIAH): (a) and (b) The requisite figures are indicated below:

	No. of cases registered and challaned	Persons arrested in these cases	No. of persons convicted in cases decided so far.
1981	86	211	32
1982	86	227	43
1983	76	190	15